



Chevy Chase Village

CRIER

February 2007

5906 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Vol. 95, No. 2



Happy Valentine's Day

Tentative Agenda

Board of Managers' Meeting

Chevy Chase Village Hall

Monday, February 12, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

Note: The full agenda will be available on the Village website by Friday, February 9.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Appeals

4 Newlands Street

4 Oxford Street

Old Business

Discussion of Building Regulations Consultants

New Business

Chairman's Report

Manager's Report

Police Report

Photo Radar Speed Enforcement

Building Permits/Code Enforcement

Mark Your Calendar and

See the Enclosed Flyers & Articles

February 1: Tae Kwon Do Class Begins

February 6: Toddlers Group Kick-Off

March 21: Annual Spring Cleaning Event

Resident Directory Update Form

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Board of Managers Interviews Candidate Building Regulations Consultants

Monday evening, January 29, the Board of Managers convened a meeting to interview consulting candidates with expertise in building regulations, zoning, neighborhood conservation and community design guidelines. Invited to the interviews were three firms culled from an initial group of twelve first contacted in mid-October. Two firms sent representatives to the 7:00 p.m. meeting. The third firm withdrew as a candidate prior to the interviews.

Messrs. Todd Ray and Jim Spearman represented Jakubiak & Associates and Mr. Nore Winter appeared on behalf of Winter & Company. Each group was afforded 45 minutes to respond to questions posed by the Board. Information about each firm was made available to all residents in advance of the interview session and the Board encouraged residents to submit questions that the Board could pose to the candidates on their behalf. Many residents took advantage of the opportunity and provided suggestions which the Board used to focus the individual exchanges.

The interview meeting date, time and format were announced in advance to all Village residents and many of those who submitted questions were present to hear the candidates' responses firsthand. Discussion of the candidates' responses was not part of the meeting's agenda, but is scheduled to occur during the regular Board of Managers meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2007. At that meeting, the Board will invite discussion and comment from all residents about the candidates, their responses and their qualifications. Residents are encouraged to mark this date and time on their calendar and plan to attend the meeting. Your input will be valuable to the Board as it deliberates on selection of a preferred consultant.

Residents are encouraged to reference the informative brochure "Teardown/Mansionization Bulletin: Protecting Older Neighborhoods with Newer Tools, Montgomery County, Maryland". This document was published by the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission in August 2006 and reports on a study they did incorporating input from builders, realtors, homeowners and resident groups. The brochure is available at: <http://www.mc-mncppc.org/historic/pdfs/teardown.pdf>.

Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers' Meeting, 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall
Telephone: 301-654-7300, Fax: 301-907-9721, E-mail: ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov, Website: www.ccvillage.org

In The Village

Board Actions - January 8, 2007 Board of Managers' Meeting

Minutes: December 11, 2006 Meeting: Approved.

Committee Reports: Building Facilities Commission

—Commission Chair Mary Anne Tuohey outlined past and upcoming events to be held in the Village Hall and sponsored by the Committee on Children, Youth and Families. In February, the Commission will address the rates to charge for the new conference room as well as selecting new chairs for the space. **Brookville Road Working Group**—Working Group Chair Dr. Douglas Kamerow reported that staff had met with all the residents along the corridor to gain an understanding of individual concerns and level of support for the project in preparation for tasking Rummel, Klepper & Kahl to prepare the next level of engineering drawings to take to the State Highway Administration. The Board amended the FY 2007 budget to appropriate \$53,000 from reserves to the Brookville Road engineering plans to 30%.

Old Business: Building Regulations Consultants—The Board decided to select a consultant at its February 12, 2007 meeting. (See cover article for more information.) **Infrastructure Communications Consultant**—Andrew Afflerbach, Ph.D, P.E. and Dave Randolph of *Columbia Telecommunications Corporation* advised that the best way to upgrade communication technology is to install fiber optic cables which would allow the Village to limit the amount of disruption to streets and greenspace and gives the Village greater control of its rights-of-way.

New Business: Grove Street Alley—The Village will continue to maintain and pave the alley. **Resolution No. 01-01-07: Amendment of Fee Schedule**—Approved. (The ordinance sets a \$350 ceiling for tree removal permits.)

This is a synopsis of the Board's actions.

To view an archive of the complete approved minutes from the Board's meetings, please visit the Village website at www.ccvillage.org and click on "The Board of Managers".

State Tax Credit Information

The Maryland Historical Trust has a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" about rehabilitation tax credits offered by the state. Tax credit application, materials and brochure can also be found at this site.

For additional information, call the Office of Preservation Services at (410) 514-7627 or access the "Tax Credit" section at: www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net.

Fourth Annual Spring Cleaning Event

The last three years' Spring Cleaning events have been a huge success. The annual drive continues this year. The Public Works Department will again collect items throughout the Village on Wednesday, March 21, 2007. This year's drive will again benefit the organization AMVETS, which has supported active and veteran military personnel since 1947.

Keep an eye out for the event flyer that will be mailed toward the end of February. We look forward to another successful donation drive and hope this year's collection will be even better than the last!

Development in Friendship Heights

Demolition of *Hechts* began in January 2007. Both the sidewalk and *Metro* entrance are closed and will remain so until the entire renovation project is complete in about two years. Residents may access *Metro* on the northeast corner of Wisconsin and Western Avenues. *Metro* and *Ride-On* are currently using the open air turnaround on Wisconsin Avenue.

The new *Bloomington* store located at Western Avenue and Friendship Boulevard should open next spring. Once excavation is complete and concrete is poured for the underground parking, construction will begin on the Recreation Center located next to *Bloomington*. Opening in late 2008 along Willard Avenue, are a 15-story apartment building and to the rear a 12-story office building along with retail stores including a *Whole Foods*.

Committee on Children, Youth and Families

The Committee would like to thank Peter Yeo for organizing and running a very successful "tween" Movie Night the evening of January 19. There were 25 kids, boys and girls, and everyone had a great time eating pizza and watching the movie Talladega Nights.

Back by popular demand, a babysitting course will be offered in March. Further information will be provided in the March issue of the *Crier*.

Residents can contact the Committee's Co-Chairs by email with ideas for new activities, or to volunteer for future events: Amy Cooper at acelle@aol.com or Karen Spangler at karensangler@comcast.net.

The Village Hall

Rent the Village Hall For Your Next Event

The Village Hall is the perfect setting for your next meeting or party and is available to all Village residents. Our two large rooms are available for:



- birthday parties,
- sweet 16 parties,
- weddings and wedding receptions,
- anniversary parties,
- graduation parties,
- bar and bat mitzvah receptions,
- business/organization meetings, and
- any event you can think of! There is even a small room to hold smaller children's birthday parties for a reduced rate.

The rates for rental of the two larger rooms are reduced for children's (ages 12 and under) parties. The Village Hall is sure to enhance your event. Please contact Doris Lyster in the Village office for additional information and to reserve your date.

Artists Sought

The Building Facilities Commission will host its fifth Annual Art Show during the month of April with a gala reception in the Village Hall.

In order to select a date in April, the curators are looking for interested artists who have either lived in Chevy Chase Village in the past or who currently live in the Village and would like to exhibit their art work. Items will be exhibited for about a month.

If you would like to exhibit fine art photography, paintings or sculptures please email Sally Troyer at troyerart@aol.com.

Building Facilities Commission

The Building Facilities Commission meets the second Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Village Hall. Their next meeting will be held on Monday, February 12. All residents are invited to attend.

Toddler Group

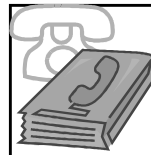
The new weekly Toddlers Group meets on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. All Village parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

Contact either Kristen Best at (202) 460-1256 or Lesley McNamara at (301) 718-8383 with questions or for additional information.

2007 Resident Directory

The 2007 Village Resident Directory will be distributed at the Annual Meeting on Monday, April 16, 2007 and will be available for pick-up in the Village office after that date.

Enclosed in this issue of the *Crier* is an update form to be completed and returned to the Village office no later than **March 12, 2007** so changes and corrections may be made to your listing prior to the printing of the new Resident Directory.



The 2006 Resident Directory is available for pick-up in the Village office and Communications Center.

Village Listserve

As a direct way for the Village staff and Board to disseminate important information directly to residents personal computers, the Village staff is proud to introduce the Chevy Chase Village Listserve at Yahoo!® Groups.

To subscribe, go to www.groups.yahoo.com and click on Sign Up!, which will direct you to the Registration page. Follow the instructions to enroll. **IMPORTANT:** If you do not already have a Yahoo!® email address and/or if you do not wish to obtain a Yahoo!® email address, you must select and specify an alternate email **following** completion of the registration page.

The listserve is closely monitored. Any users considered to be offensive or inappropriate will be blocked.

Listserve have become quite popular as convenient tools for sharing information. Village residents can post contractor recommendations, offer tickets or items for sale, spread the word on upcoming yard or bake sales and any other topic residents wish to discuss. All residents are encouraged to enroll in this new service. If you have any questions or need assistance enrolling, please email Shana Davis-Cook in the Village office at: shana.davis-cook@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Administrative Office Closings

The Administrative Office will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2007 to observe Presidents' Day.

The Communications Center and Police Department remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In The Village

Mulch Mounds Are Killing Trees

By Scott Aker, Special to *The Washington Post*

Q. What are your views on mulching trees? In our subdivision, the landscaper hired by the homeowners association follows the common practice of dressing the base of the trees with a mound of shredded hardwood mulch. Besides looking absurd, this mulch cannot be healthy for the trees, I believe. I am tired of my dues paying to replace sick trees that have died or fallen over. I've tried contacting the authorities in charge only to be told that I should write a letter explaining why it is bad for the trees when it "looks so nice," and they will "consider the matter."

A. If I had the choice of eliminating one harmful gardening practices, it would be the mulch volcanoes that appear around trees. To some, it may look neat and tidy, but it ultimately results in tree decline and mortality. That "professionals" are doing it and giving it credence boggles the mind. The aim may be to preserve soil moisture in dry spells; the effect is exactly the opposite. No rain can penetrate a foot-thick layer of mulch, and because the mulch is sloped away from the tree, it runs off. Thick mulch also promotes the growth of mats of fungi that shed water. In effect, the mound functions as an umbrella over the root zone.

A trunk wound covered in mulch doesn't heal and becomes an entryway for pest and disease. Also, many trees actually send roots out into the mulch over time, in a desperate search for moisture. These often grow near the surface of the mulch and are subject to drought stress. A heavy layer of mulch may also harbor rodents that can injure the bark and major roots.

Often trees mulched in this way fail to develop a normal root flare, which works to buttress the trunk as the tree grows to maturity. Heavily mulched trees are more likely to be uprooted in a windstorm.

Mulch volcanoes are most injurious to young trees and, unfortunately, that is where they are seen most often. If a newly planted tree is subjected to this treatment, the root ball may be completely shielded from any moisture, even if the area is irrigated heavily. Such trees may struggle to become established and often die within five years of planting.

The correct method is to form a circular ridge of soil at the edge of the root zone then lightly mulch this saucer so that the soil and mulch together trap rainwater and feed it to the roots. Mulch should not touch the trunks.

Your association should consider the effect of mulch volcanoes not only on the trees, but also on its finances. All that mulch and the labor to apply it costs money, as do the replacement trees.

WETA to Air Chevy Chase Documentary

Public broadcasting station WETA-TV Channel 26 will air the documentary, "Chevy Chase Maryland: A Streetcar to Home," on Sunday, February 4 and Sunday, March 30 at 10:30 p.m. immediately following "Masterpiece Theatre."

Created in collaboration with Video-Art Productions of Washington, DC, the program includes interviews with historian and local residents, spiced with oral histories from early Chevy Chase families. It features hundreds of vintage photographs from Historical Society archives, contemporary footage shot by Video-Art Productions and an original music score inspired by Eubie Blake's 1915 rag tune, "Chevy Chase Fox Trot."

The documentary was funded by the Chevy Chase Historical Society (CCHS) and contributions from Chevy Chase Village, The Town of Chevy Chase, Sections 3 & 5, Martin's Additions and Chevy Chase Bank.

The documentary is available for sale in DVD format at www.chevychasehistory.org. CCHS has recorded and preserved the history of Chevy Chase since 1981.

Tax Return Reminder

When preparing your State of Maryland tax return for 2006, please remember to enter **Chevy Chase Village** in the proper block of **Form 502/503** as shown here.



Police Beat—Chevy Chase Village

To e-mail Police Chief Roy Gordon: roy.gordon@montgomerycountymd.gov

Presentation on Photo Radar Speed Cameras in Chevy Chase Village

Police Chief Roy Gordon will make a presentation at the February 12, 2007 Board Meeting to update the community on the use of Photo Speed Cameras in Chevy Chase Village. The presentation will focus on both historical speed data and the most recent speed data study conducted on Connecticut Avenue. The presentation will give residents firsthand information on the law allowing photo speed enforcement in Montgomery County and how the system works. Chief Gordon recently attended a workshop with representatives from eight different agencies across the U.S. that shared their experiences in using photo speed cameras in their jurisdictions.

The use of Photo Speed Cameras is imminent in Montgomery County. The Chief will share the latest information about the pending Montgomery County contract and the partnership with the Village. The focus of this new safety program is to change driver behavior by obeying the posted speed limits. Information about the technology as well as the location of both fixed and portable speed cameras will be available on the Village website. The website will also contain on a monthly basis the number of violations issued for each speed camera location. Evaluations of the new technology will be ongoing and shared with the community both on the website and at public meetings. This new technology will result in more efficient use of police resources in addressing traffic related problems on Village Streets.

All residents are encouraged to attend this informative presentation.



Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Sidewalks must be cleared of excess snow. Residents are responsible for clearing all snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of or abutting their property within the first forty-eight (48) hours after the cessation of falling snow. Residents who occupy corner lots are responsible for the sidewalk in front of and on the side of their property.

Fox Sightings

Since early January, residents have reported seeing two separate red foxes in the Village. One is striking red and the other is more brown in color. When first reports came into the Communications Center, officers responded to observe the animals firsthand and take appropriate action if the animals appeared ill or were acting strangely. Such behavior would suggest the animal(s) might be infected with rabies and the Village office would proceed to trap the animals to eliminate the health hazard. All observations to date, by officers and residents, indicate both animals are apparently healthy and that they travel through the Village from the Chevy Chase Club golf course.

The Village office has contacted Montgomery County, Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to learn what these agencies' policies and procedures are regarding foxes in urban environments. The response received from each is that foxes provide a benefit in that a staple in their diets is rodents; foxes are significantly less likely than raccoons to be rabies carriers; that trapping foxes is regulated and all captured foxes must be euthanized.

The Village has contacted the Club to request that any fence openings along its southern boundary be sealed to keep the foxes within the Club's property. Please contact the Village with any questions you might have or contact Robert Colona with DNR at (410) 221-8838.

Officer of the Month



On January 9, 2007 at approximately 8:00 a.m., Officer Ed Vallejo was alerted by DPW Director Jerry Lesesne, that Matthew Morton, a temporary DPW Village employee was in the Village lobby hunched over in pain.

Officer Vallejo immediately rendered first aid for symptoms indicating cardiac arrest and gave Morton an aspirin and kept him calm until the medics arrived. Fire/Rescue personnel were summoned and Mr. Morton was transported to Suburban Hospital and diagnosed with having a major heart attack that could have caused a major stroke.

Officer Vallejo is commended for his life-saving efforts and quick thinking. Mr. Morton never lost consciousness while being administered to by Officer Vallejo. The Village is fortunate to have such a high caliber of personnel patrolling its community.

Community News

Chevy Chase Community Library February 2007



The Chevy Chase Library is located at 8005 Connecticut Avenue. All programs are free. For further information or for reservations, contact the library at (240) 773-9590.

Great Books Discussion Group: *DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE* (Chapter 50) by Gibbon
Wednesday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Toddler Times: Stories, rhymes and other activities for ages 18-36 months. (Seating is limited and free tickets will be distributed before each program.) Programs at 10:15 and repeat at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27 and Thursdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22.

Born to Read: Saturday, February 24 at 9:30 a.m.
Introduce your child (newborn to 18 months) to the joy of language and books with this program featuring rhymes, songs, bounces, movement and short stories. No registration required.

Preschool Storytime: Monday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m.:
Stories, rhymes and other activities. Come in pajamas, if you like. For ages 3 to 6.

Special Event—Valentine Making: Saturday, February 3 9:00–11:45 a.m. Join Friends of the Library and make valentines for parents, friends or sweethearts. Age 3+ free.

Special Events—

Meet the Author: Saturday, February 3 at noon. Reading Q & A with Kathy Kelly, author of the Lucy Rose series—*Lucy Rose Here's The Thing About Me*; *Lucy Rose: Big on Plans*; and her latest, *Lucy Rose Busy Like You Can't Believe*, will read from her newest book, answer your questions about Lucy Rose and being a writer, and will sign autographs. Age 5+ free.

Composing Your Memoirs: Wednesday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m. Armiger Jagoe will conduct a four-part series on how to write your memoirs or autobiography. The series begins January 31. Attend one session or all four.

How to Write an Autobiography: Wednesday, February 14 and 21 at 10:00 a.m. Armiger Jagoe will conduct a four-part series on how to write your memoirs or autobiography. The series begins January 31. Attend one session or all four. Adults.

Romance Writing: Saturday, February 17 at 10:00 — Noon How to write a romance novel presented by award-winning author Hope Tarr. Age 17+ free.

Book Sale—Romance and Reading: Saturday, February 17 at 9:00 a.m. Browse and buy bodice rippers to chick lit at this special Romance Book Sale.

Chinese New Year Celebration: Saturday, February 24 at 11:00 a.m. Join the Library to celebrate Chinese New Year as the Tai Yim Kung Fu School performs the Lion Dance for the Year of the Boar.

Literary Luncheon: Wednesday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m. Join us for a discussion of *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Linda See. The discussion will be followed by a light lunch. Copies of the book will be available at the library. Adult. Free. Please register in advance.

REMINDERS

- Notify the Village office if you have a medical requirement for emergency services so we may alert utility companies working in the Village.
- Having your house number painted on the curb in front of your property is prohibited by Section 12-5 of the Village Code. Contractors painting on the Village curbs will be issued a municipal citation by the Village Police.
- Dumpster use in the Village requires a permit. Please remind your contractor that a permit must be received from the Village Office prior to placing a dumpster on private property. Dumpsters are prohibited on public property, including Village streets at ALL times. Dumpster switch-outs are prohibited in the Village's public right-of-way, including roadways.
- Contact the Village office prior to removing trees on private property or beginning any home improvement projects to discuss permit requirements.
- Grey recycle bin lids are available in the Communications Center. Please make sure your recycle bins are placed in an easily accessible location. If recycling haulers cannot find the bins, collection of recyclables may be hampered.
- Free "No Solicitors" stickers are available for residents wishing to put them in a window near the front door to their home. The sticker is in addition to the list maintained by Communications.
- Residents are encouraged to use the Bulletin Board, located in the Village Hall, for notices or advertisements, which must be approved by staff prior to posting.
- Please remind your landscaping and home improvement contractors that work is prohibited prior to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 9:00 a.m. weekends and holidays.

